

CANDIDATES ARE GROOMING FOR THE RACE

ALTHOUGH ELECTION IS A YEAR OFF, WHISPERING HOPE OF MANY HAS BEEN HEARD AND RACE MAY BE LIVELY ONE.

Although the primary election for county officers is far in the distance, there are many who have their eyes on the various jobs that the county supplies, and the race in all departments promises to be a lively one next year.

Reports from over the county state that there are several candidates from the rural districts who are going to make a try for some of the party pie and find out how it feels to live where the electric lights glow. Up to date, there seems to be more aspirants for the sheriff's job than any other. Sheriff Garrett, should he decide to again enter the race will have at least two, perhaps three opponents for his job, while it is an open secret that there will be an "independent" (?) candidate pitted against the winner, in the general election.

Fred Haynie, clerk of the courts, will have one or more opponents in the primary, should he decide to make the race again. One, it is said, is very active with his friends in the country precincts, making medicine while the making is good.

So far there has been nothing whispered about the county judge's job. The present incumbent seems to be handling the situation satisfactorily and would probably be returned if he asks it of the voters. But—you never can tell. The race has always developed a host of candidates, and they may swarm again when the time comes.

Shelton Tyer, county clerk, is serving his first term as an elective officer, and his experience in this work makes him eminently fitted for the place. However, it has been whispered that he will have an opponent in the primaries, and before the time comes, he might have several who desire to serve the "dear people" in his stead—and draw the emoluments of the office.

The office of county treasurer of this county has always been in competent hands, and the present incumbent has been identified with it ever since statehood. He had one opponent when he made the first race, none whatever the last time, and in all probability will have none the next. The people are well satisfied with the competent services of John Yell, and in all probability he will serve them as long as he desires to do so, although, as stated above the woods may be full of candidates for the idea of August roll around once more, as no office can be considered the perpetual property of one citizen.

The county attorney's race has always developed a large flock of aspiring orators who spill words by the million upon the ambient atmosphere during the time allotted for making the campaign, and present their claims for party preferment to the dear people, who labor with their hands, instead of their jawbone, throughout the rural districts, where fried chicken abounds, and where hospitality is rampant. There are several aspiring young lawyers whose practice at present is not over-burdensome, who

would like very much to rely on the stipulated salary attached to the county attorney's office than depend on the fickleness of the public to furnish them the wherewithal to sustain life and procure raiment. The present incumbent, A. J. Hardy, went before the people in the last campaign and promised them he would make good if given the chance. Evidently the people believed in him, as his was not a race—it was a runaway,—with all the other candidates getting the flag while he was enjoying a snooze after finishing the stretch. However, so far he has made good and has done the county's work, and done it well. Parties, however, are sometimes forgetful, and he may have several opponents in the primary, and it and there is no telling what is liable an "independent" (?) with him in the general election. Speaking of an "independent," Mr. Dooley says there ain't no such animal. He says that one is either a democrat or a republican, unless he is an "independent," then he is a republican. Be that as it may, the next election may see several "independents" names on the ticket.

Let's see, where were we at? Oh, yes.

Since the legislature has changed the law relative to the county tax assessor's office, and placed it on a salary basis, instead of a per cent, it has far more attraction than formerly. The present incumbent had two opponents in the last race, and it is an open secret that he has at least one who will oppose him in the next, with chances good that others will shy their castors into the ring. The present incumbent has proven his efficiency, and has given the taxpayers good service, and would probably be a hard man to beat for re-election. However, as stated before, the public is very fickle and there is no telling what is liable to happen in a democratic primary.

The county weigher's office is going to have to be filled by another man, if all reports are true, as it has been whispered that the present incumbent has his eyes on larger things. The same is true of the county commissioners. At least two of the three have been hearing bees buzzing for some time, and the buzzing has whetted their aspirations to the straining point. There never has been a dearth of candidates for these jobs, and the dear public will have an opportunity of reading several names on the ballot from which to make their selection.

The present county surveyor will probably hold his job, as there seems to be a dearth of competent men.

For state senator from this district, Keller of Marietta is the hold-over, while Tucker of this city is not, and his successor will be named at the primary election. Sulphur, the classic city of springs and things, has an east-sider who has already announced that he was going to get Tucker's job, and as it is practically agreed that Murray county is entitled to this honor, he will probably get what he most desires and now thinks what he wants. He may alter his opinion after the first session of the legislature in which he participates.

Kelly Brown, who represented this county in the last legislature, has moved to Muskogee, but retains citizenship here in order to be available in case the governor should call a special session of the legislature. His place will be supplied next time and a whispering breeze from the banks of the classic Caddo conveys the gentle hint that an old "war-horse" is championing the bit, and, like the steed of Job, scenting the battle from afar. The state capital and the county of Lee Hockins have supreme

attractions for aspiring legislators and there will probably be several telling the people why they should be the chosen of the Lord, to lead them out of the blind wilderness of the overburdened statute books, and more modern ones substituted.

To date this is about the situation as it now stands. There may be several changes in the "dope" before the time for making the selection rolls around, but one thing the voters and their wives who reside in the rural precincts may be assured of: they are not going to be denied the pleasure of "a heap" of company during the month of August, 1916, and even now the long-suffering but kind-hearted country people are making preparations to raise an extra large crop of "yellow-leg" chickens for the coming of the hosts.

Free tickets to picture show with every purchase at Hamilton Shoe Co's. Cleanup Sale.

What the Papers Don't Print.

Every week this paper, and every other paper in the country has a number of errors, typographical and otherwise, confesses H. A. Clay in the Christian County Republican. That's one of the reasons a good many people think the editor should have been a blacksmith. But what of the editor's viewpoint? If there's one thing better calculated to turn rosy youth to old age than, for instance, to get death notices and weather predictions mixed so that the darned thing comes out in the paper, "Mrs. William Williams died last night. She has gone where it is—116 degrees in the shade and with rising temperature tomorrow," well—we'd like to know what it is. Maybe you think it pleasant to walk down the street and hear some grinning idiot with a head like a German pancake and a brain like an addled egg holding up the sheet to caustic criticism and the editor to consciousness scorn!

Maybe you think it nice to hear some member of the vacuum family remark that the editor must make up his paper with a shovel, or some Pinhead Percy wonder why the editor doesn't learn how to set type! No doubt you think it excruciatingly delicious when an item announcing that Miss Merry Merrydale is to be led to the altar, get into the paper as "led by a halter!" Funny, isn't it? Yes, it is, it depends on the point of view. Some people may think a paralyzed man with the itch is the height of the ridiculous, but what does the paralyzed man think about it? We are all apt to make mistakes. Don't forget that. What would you think if the editor put some of your mistakes into the paper? Remember when—

who shaves himself, came to church with a fine patch of whiskers on his chin which he had overlooked? And when Miss — let the shoe string on her switch hang down her back? And how Elder — caught the tail of his long coat over the bottle in his hind pocket and went down the street showing that sometimes the strongest in faith are weakest in the flesh? But we have no intention of telling these things. As an editor we wouldn't be much of a hairpin if we were bent that way. Just remember, though, that we are all prone to errors, and the next time you see anything in the paper which you regard as a sure sign of the editor's feeble-mindedness, just say the devil did it, and by heck, we'll back you up.

Look!—\$5.00 Shoes \$2.55, at Hamilton Shoe Co's. Big Shoe Sale.

CONVICT RETURNS AFTER PAYING MOTHER VISIT

Oklahoma City, August 14.—"I just had to get away from prison long enough to see my old mother once more. I had not seen her in five years, and as I had five more years to serve I made up my mind to slip away and pay her a visit."

On his way back to the state reformatory at Granite to finish a ten-year sentence for highway robbery, unaccompanied by officers and going of his own free will to again take his place behind the bars, Charlie Patton, a negro, 22 years old, stopped off in Oklahoma City Thursday to tell Governor R. L. Williams why he escaped and why he is returning.

Patton was reported missing from Granite on the morning of July 3. Not a trace of him was found, no clue to how he eluded the guards and not the slightest inkling of where he had gone. Nothing was heard from him for a month. A little more than a week ago Governor Williams received a telegram from Patton at St. Louis in which the negro said he was ready to go back to Granite and that he would go without officers arresting him.

Patton declared at the governor's office that he never had any intention of doing other than making his way back to the prison after visiting his mother. She lived in St. Louis and had no money with which to come to Oklahoma to see him. So he determined to escape, work long enough

to get a small supply of cash, then make the trip to St. Louis and finally surrender himself to the officials of the Granite prison. His mother, he said, is aged and not in the best of health. He declared he feared if he waited until his time expired he would never see her alive.

The negro said he went to Texas first, after escaping. There he worked for a few weeks, and saved all his money until he had enough to pay railroad fare to the Missouri metropolis and back.

Sent up for highway robbery five years ago, when a boy just 17, Patton always has been considered a good prisoner, according to prison records. He has five years yet to serve.

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A home product—DeWitt's Hand-Made 5c Cigar.

INSTRUCTING FARMERS IN HANDLING COTTON

Oklahoma City, Okla., August 14.—Instructions for farmers and others engaged in handling cotton after it has been baled and before it reaches warehouses, is being attempted by J. H. Hagerman, chief cotton inspector for the western weighing and inspection bureau. The object is to minimize the extent of country damage to cotton bales, and it is expected that the showing to be made of savings to the owner of such cotton will be calculated to induce greater care of the staple after it has been ginned.

The bureau is preparing to circulate admonitions and instructions to farmers in the effort to prevent damage from weather which may be obviated by turning the bales and keeping the bottom of exposed bales out of the wet by use of beams upon which to stand the bales. The work of the western weighing and inspection bureau this year will be amplified in the handling of cotton. Its establishment last season was in the expectation of making savings to railroads on account of damages and losses and it proved its usefulness in that respect.

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ANTI-GAMBLING LAW VALIDITY NOW ATTACKED

Oklahoma City, Aug. 14.—First attack on validity of the state anti-gambling law is promised in an answer to gambling penalty suits to be filed Thursday afternoon by Albert H. Niles through Attorney E. G. McAdams.

The answer to the suit of County Attorney John Embury for judgment of \$139,000 against F. H. Reed and Albert H. Niles, owners of the building known as the Olympic club in which it is charged, gambling was carried on, asserts that many irregularities occurred when the gambling measure was voted on by the people.

The vote was taken on a re-submission petition, enough signatures having been secured to compel a referendum vote. The gambling law provided penalties of \$1,000 a day for every property owner that permitted the law to be violated in his building.

The answer asserts that by law 275,000 ballots should have been sent to the various voting precincts 40 days prior to the election. Instead, it is contended, only 150,000 ballots were sent out many days later than the specified time. It is also asserted that the state election board certified the returns to the governor in an informal session, the republican member, E. A. Haines, not having been notified of the board's meeting.

The penalty suits filed by Embury were the first brought in the state under the gambling law. Numerous ones have been brought under the prohibition penalty law.

MURDERER'S AX IDENTIFIED

Muskogee Authorities Say Arrest for Murder is Expected.

Muskogee, Okla., Aug. 14.—The old rusty hand-ax with its crude handle, used by a brutal assassin to take the life of William B. Province, a suburban grocer, Wednesday, was identified today and removed from the show window of a downtown store, where the police had placed it for that purpose. Just where this identification leads, the officers will not disclose at this time, but say that an arrest will probably be made in the next few days.

County Attorney Branson this afternoon held a secret court of inquisition, questioning about forty witnesses. Among those summoned was the widow of Province.

SMALL BOY SHOTS MAN GATHERING PEACHES

Last Friday afternoon, while guarding the peach orchard of his mother, little Olie Arbuckle fired several shots at Mr. King, a farmer residing on the Arbuckle farm, one of which took effect in Mr. King's left arm, inflicting nothing more than a slight flesh wound.

The young fellow says that he did not know who the party was, but saw someone pulling peaches from the trees and was ordered to prevent such occurrences. He fired upon the party whom he later learned was Mr. King. He now expresses deep regret at having shot the gentleman. There was no arrest made, as the boy was acting strictly within his authority. Mr. King holds no grievance against the boy.—News-Democrat, Madril.

Drink pure distilled water, delivered anywhere in city. Phone orders to 615.

Struck it rich. Those who were first to visit Hamilton Shoe Co's. big Shoe Sale.

Mrs. Dulaney Appointed.

When the last legislature passed the bill abolishing the court town at Cornish and then passed another bill making Ringling a county court town, it left the court district without a court clerk. Court Clerk Jno. Spivy has reappointed Mrs. Nannie Dulaney, who was the clerk at Cornish, and the county commissioners approved the appointment at their last meeting the first Monday in this month. Mrs. Dulaney is well qualified for the position and the appointment will please all the patrons of the court in this district.—Ringling News.

Try the famous milk shakes at Berry's Fountain.

GOVERNOR DELAYS DEPARTURE.

Wants to Approve Capitol Contractors' Bond Before Leaving.

Oklahoma City, Aug. 14.—Governor Williams today announced that he will defer leaving here for the governor's conference in Boston until Tuesday, owing to his desire to approve the bond of the capital contractors before he leaves. The bond is on the way here from New York.

Hero-Hoo, the new cigar, 5 cents. at your dealer's.

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